

**Population**

124,000

**Internet**

[www.canz.com.au](http://www.canz.com.au)

[www.barfly.com.au](http://www.barfly.com.au)

[www.cairnsattractions.com/  
index.html](http://www.cairnsattractions.com/index.html)

**Publications**

The Cairns Post

The Cairns Sun

**Emergency number**

000 (Police, Fire and  
Ambulance)

**Tourist Office**

The Gateway Discovery Centre  
51 The Esplanade

Opening hours: 8.30am to  
6.30pm; public holidays from  
10am to 6pm

Tel: (07) 4051 3588

[www.tropicalaustralia.com.au](http://www.tropicalaustralia.com.au)

**Welcome to Cairns**

People have been flocking to Cairns in search of treasure since the first gold rush. However today, prospectors come to mine the abundance of natural and environmental treasures that surround the city. With the tropical Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef in close proximity, Cairns attracts a young and intrepid crowd that adds to the vibrancy of this lively and welcoming city.

# CAIRNS



*Cairns Esplanade and Lagoon © Tourism Queensland*

## WELCOME TO CAIRNS

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### THE CITY

The city's landmark is the Esplanade, which fringes the shoreline for 2 km and provides a place for locals and visitors to walk, cycle, lounge by the lagoon and just generally enjoy the sun. As the focal point of the city, the Esplanade is always alive with various musical and cultural events and is also home to many fine restaurants and bars.

Just back from the Esplanade is City Place, a modern European styled piazza where there are plenty of shopping and eating opportunities and many of the city's cultural and entertainment attractions. Dotted around this area, particularly along Wharf Street, you will also find a number of Cairns older and historical buildings with their signatory wide verandas and porches.

Outside of the Central district, the suburb of Edgehill is home to the Tanks Centre, a lively local arts space, the Flecker Botanical Gardens and the Whitfield Range Environmental Park. Whilst for those looking to hit the beach there is a bus service running to some spectacular stretches of sand about 15 minutes north of the city.



*Dividing on the Great Barrier Reef © Tourism Australia*

### DO & SEE

#### The Esplanade

Stroll along the prom, splash about in the lagoon, enjoy some of the free events or just soak up the sun.

*Tel: (07) 4044 3715*  
*www.cairns.qld.gov.au/tourism/esplanade\_*  
*foreshore/index.htm*

#### Cairns Historical Museum

Exhibition displaying the history of Cairns.

*Price: \$5*  
*Address: Cnr Lake & Shields St, City Place*  
*Tel: (07) 4051 5582*  
*www.cairnsmuseum.org.au*

#### Cairns Regional Gallery

Exhibitions showcasing the visual art of Far North Queensland.

*Price: \$5*  
*Address: Cnr Abbott & Shields Streets*  
*Tel: (07) 4046 4800*  
*www.cairnsregionalgallery.com.au/index.html*

#### Flecker Botanical Gardens

Learn about Aboriginal plant use, wonder at the sites of the flora and fauna and breathe in the views over Cairns

*Price: Free, Address: Collins Avenue, Edge Hill*  
*Tel: (07) 4044 3398*

#### Cairns Rainforest Dome

Meet the animals and learn about the fragile ecology of the rainforest.

*Price: \$22 adult*  
*Address: Reef Hotel, 35-41 Wharf Street*  
*Tel: (07) 40 317 250*  
*www.cairnsdome.com.au*

#### Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park

Aboriginal cultural park showcasing the culture and beliefs of the rainforest people of Tropical North Queensland.

*Address: Kamerunga Road, Smithfield*  
*Tel: (07) 4042 9900*  
*www.tjapukai.com.au*

#### Kurunda Scenic Railway & Skyrail Rainforest Cableway

Stunning train ride to the charming town of Kurunda and a return journey by cable car across the canopy of the rainforest.

*Price: \$93 adult*  
*Address: Cairns Railway Station, Bunda Street*  
*Tel: (07) 4036 9333 or + (07) 4038 1555*  
*www.ksr.com.au/ & www.skyrail.com.au/*

#### Great Barrier Reef

No trip to Cairns would be complete without a day spent exploring the Great Barrier Reef. [www.ctherealthing.com/reefdiving.html](http://www.ctherealthing.com/reefdiving.html)

#### Daintree Rainforest

Experience the splendour of this world heritage listed rainforest.

*www.daintreerainforest.com*



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### **EATING**

The cuisine of Cairns is similar to the rest of Australia in that it has absorbed many influences from the migrants who have arrived at its shores. Thus there is a fusion of South East Asian and Mediterranean influences with more traditionally Western style traditions. Cairns also draws on the natural environment for its sources and thus there is an abundance of fresh seafood, native meats and locally produced fruit and vegetables.

### **EXCLUSIVE**

#### **Cafe China Seafood Restaurant & Noodle Bar**

Award winning restaurant known for its exquisite Chinese infused seafood cuisine.

*Address: Rydges Plaza Complex, Cnr Spence & Grafton St, Tel: (07) 4041 2828  
www.cafechina.com.au*

#### **Red Ochre Grill**

Contemporary styled restaurant bringing an imaginative approach to native food.

*Address: 43 Shield Street  
Tel: (07) 4051 0100  
www.redochregrill.com.au*

#### **2 Fish Seafood Restaurant**

Seafood lovers will delight in the innovative and creative cuisine. Delicious!

*Address: Pierpoint Rd, The Pier Marketplace  
Tel: (07) 4041 6850  
www.2fishrestaurant.com.au*

#### **Tamarind Restaurant**

Exclusive restaurant serving a delicious mix of Asian and Western cuisine in an intimate setting!

*Address: Reef Hotel, 35-41 Wharf St  
Tel: (07) 4030 8888  
www.reefcasino.com.au/tamarind.php*

### **MID-RANGE**

#### **C'est Bon**

A taste of France in the tropics! Excellent food and beautiful surroundings!

*Address: 20 Lake Street  
Tel: (07) 4051 4488  
www.cestbon.com.au/index2.html*

#### **Verdi's Italian Restaurant**

Excellent Italian cuisine and seafood dishes.

*Address: Cnr Shields & Sheridan Streets  
Tel: (07) 4052 1010  
www.verdis.com.au*

#### **Tropics Restaurant**

Sample five star quality food at affordable prices at the local college's training restaurant, where the chefs of the future cook up a storm.

*Address: Tropical North Queensland TAFE, Gatton St  
Tel: (07) 4042 2477  
www.tnqit.tafe.qld.gov.au/features.php?link=tropics*

### **BUDGET**

#### **Pattaya Thai Restaurant**

This family run restaurant serves deliciously authentic Thai food at great prices.

*Address: 62 Spence Street  
Tel: (07) 4051 5748  
www.canz.com.au/r\_pattaya.html*



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## CAFÉS

### Boardwalk Café

Drink in the sights of the marina, whilst enjoying the divine selection of coffee and cakes.

Address: Shop 1B Pier Marketplace, Tel: (07) 40315496

### Coast Roast Coffee

Overlooking the Cairns lagoon, this is the perfect location for a spot of people watching

Address: Cairns Esplanade  
[www.coastroast.com.au/home.html](http://www.coastroast.com.au/home.html)

### Coffee Bean Estate

Sensational location and in-house roasted beans make this a coffee connoisseur's dream.

Address: Pierpoint Rd, Pier Marketplace  
Tel: (07) 4051 3688

### Fusion Organics

Excellent selection of food and drink, catering specifically for Vegetarians!

Address: Cnr Aplin & Grafton Sts  
[www.fusionorganics.com.au](http://www.fusionorganics.com.au)

### Tiny's Juice Bar

Sample the fruits of the rainforest and get your energy levels soaring for the day ahead.

Address: 45 Grafton Street, Tel: (07) 4031 4331

## BARS

After a hard day's trekking through the rainforest or diving on the reef, hit the town and share a few stories and a few beers with the crowds who converge on the city's bars after dark. Be prepared to party hard!

### Gilligan's Backpackers Bar

Renowned party venue! Lively open air bar with party games.

Address: 57-89 Grafton Street  
[www.gilligansbackpackers.com.au/bars.html](http://www.gilligansbackpackers.com.au/bars.html)

### The Pier Bar

Great place to down a few beers whilst watching the sunset from the deck...awesome!

Address: Pier Marketplace  
[www.pierbar.com.au](http://www.pierbar.com.au)

### The Woolshed

Late night watering hole popular with the backpacking crowd! Riotous fun!

Address: 24 Shields Street  
[www.thewoolshed.com.au](http://www.thewoolshed.com.au)

### PJ O'Briens

Great atmosphere, live music and excellent drinks!

Address: 87 Lake Street

## NIGHTLIFE

If you've still got the energy after the day's exertions and the night's shenanigans, then hit one of Cairns nightclubs where the party continues until the early morn.

### Velvet Underground

Claiming the crown as Cairns top dance club, with top international DJ's and Ministry of Sound club nights!

Address: The Reef Hotel Casino, 38-41 Wharf St  
[www.canz.com.au/velvetunderground.html](http://www.canz.com.au/velvetunderground.html)

### Soho Nightclub

Seriously funky dance club that attracts a top line up of international DJ's!

Address: Corner of Esplanade and Shields St  
[www.sohonightclub.com](http://www.sohonightclub.com)

### Pure

A small and intimate dance club creating a fun and laidback vibe!

Address: 57-89 Grafton Street  
[www.gilligansbackpackers.com.au/bars.html](http://www.gilligansbackpackers.com.au/bars.html)

### Johnos

Renowned Blues club with local and international performers.

Address: Corner of Abbot and Aplin St  
[www.cairns.net.au/~pedro/johnos](http://www.cairns.net.au/~pedro/johnos)

### Cairns Tropic Jazz Club

Excellent array of domestic and internationally acclaimed Jazz stars.

Address: Historic Cairns Yacht Club, Wharf St  
[www.tropicjazz.org.au](http://www.tropicjazz.org.au)



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**ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**

**Airport**

Cairns International Airport is located 7km from Cairns CBD.

Tel: (07) 40523888

[www.cairnsport.com.au/airport](http://www.cairnsport.com.au/airport)

**To and from the Airport**

**Bus**

Australia Coach operates an airport shuttle bus service to hotels and the city centre and costs \$8.00 per person

24 Hour Tel: (07) 4048 8355

[www.australiacoach.com.au](http://www.australiacoach.com.au)

**Taxi**

Free taxi telephones are located in the arrival halls and the taxi ranks are immediately outside the terminal. The average fare to the city is \$15

**Local Traffic**

**Bus**

Sunbus provides the only form of

public transport in the area. Daily, weekly and monthly passes are available as a series of zonal tickets, allowing unlimited travel in defined areas. Price: Day pass from \$6.10; Monthly Pass up to \$121.00. To purchase tickets visit the central terminal @ Cairns City Place Transit Mall, Lake St.

Tel: (07) 4057 7411

[www.sunbus.com.au](http://www.sunbus.com.au)

**Bicycle Hire**

Bicycles can be hired from Bolwell Scooter World, 47 Shield Street Tel: (07) 4031 3444

**Taxi**

Black and White Taxis  
Tel: (07) 131 008 or (07) 4048 8333  
[www.blackandwhitetaxis.com.au](http://www.blackandwhitetaxis.com.au)

**Post**

Cairns Central Post Office  
Address: Grafton St  
Tel: (07) 131 318  
Opening hours: 08.30-17.00

**Pharmacy**

Tel: (07) 4052 1119

**Dentist**

Tel: (07) 4052 1119

**Telephone**

Area code: 07